

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated October 12, 2006, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on January 12, 2006. Applicants respectfully request entry and consideration of the above noted amendments and the following remarks in response to the Office Action.

Applicants have added new claims 36-37. Support for the new claims is found in at least paragraph 2 and the originally filed claims.

CLAIM REJECTIONS:

Claims 16-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Applicants have clarified terms in independent claim 16 and respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 16-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by, or in the alternative under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over, U.S. Patent No. 4,419,466 (*Hopkins*). The Office Action states that “if applicants argue that the monomers disclosed in *Hopkins et al.* are not alpha-olefins, applicants must recognize that *Hopkins et al.* generically claim monomers having a polymerizable double bond.” Applicants strongly disagree that *Hopkins* teaches or suggests alpha-olefins and submit that the art recognized definition of alpha olefin is an alkene with a double bond at the alpha position, which is not taught or suggested in *Hopkins*. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Further, Applicants have added new claims 36 and 37 and submit that *Hopkins* does not teach, show or suggest the features of such claims. As discussed in the interview, *Hopkins* does not teach ethylene polymerization nor slurry polymerization. Rather, *Hopkins* teaches the preparation of homopolymers, copolymers and higher interpolymers of *water-soluble monomers* via an emulsion (e.g., suspension of one liquid in a second liquid.) Therefore, Applicants submit that the new claims are allowable over the reference of record.

In conclusion, Applicants submit that the references cited in the Office Action, neither alone nor in combination, teach, show, or suggest the claimed features. Having

addressed all issues set out in the Office Action, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request the same.

Respectfully submitted,

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